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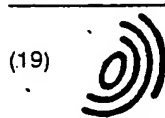
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(54) Cross-linked molded plastic bearings

(57) A method is provided for forming a plastic prosthesis bearing, net-shape bearing, near net-shape bearing or plastic stock from which such a bearing can be formed. The method includes the steps of providing plastic resin in powdered form, subjecting the powdered

resin to irradiation to cross-link the resin, and molding the irradiated powder. The irradiated powder is molded by applying heat and pressure to form the powder into a desired solid plastic shape, the heating being sufficient to melt the powder.

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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 99 30 4482

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.)
X	WO 94 27651 A (HOWMEDICA) 8 December 1994 (1994-12-08) * page 4, line 21 - page 6, line 5; claim 1 *	1-20	B29B13/08 B29C43/00 A61F2/02 //B29K23:00
X	WO 98 01085 A (SHEN FU WEN ; SALOVEY RONALD (US); MCKELLOP HARRY A (US); ORTHOPAED) 15 January 1998 (1998-01-15) * page 1, line 27 - page 4, line 32 *	1-20	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search <b>MUNICH</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>24 July 2001</b>	Examiner <b>Schweissguth, M</b>
<p><b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b></p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons A : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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